



“Taking Responsibility For Things That Matter”



Fresh Youth Initiatives

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Tax ID 13-3723207

Our Mission

To support and encourage the efforts of young people in Washington Heights/Inwood to design and carry out community service projects, develop leadership skills, fulfill their potential and realize their dreams.

www.freshyouth.org

Biennial Report 2010 / 2011

Fiscal Year June 1, 2009 – May 31, 2010
Fiscal Year June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011



Dear FYI Family,

In my two years as Executive Director, I have seen FYI's growth parallel that of our youth participants. Fresh Youth Initiatives is here to support young people as they enter the crossroads of life, transitioning from childhood into adulthood. Likewise, when I stepped into this role, FYI was sixteen years old and entering its organizational adulthood. Growing pains are not easy to work through, but in reviewing this report, I think you will be as inspired by FYI's outcomes as we are. I am proud to present this annual report highlighting the accomplishments of the past two years.

In youth development work, we challenge our participants to push through life transitions with faith in their own abilities to be agents of positive change. At FYI, faced with a difficult 2010 fiscal year, we challenged ourselves by assessing our strengths and weaknesses, reaching out to friends for support, and reflecting on our mission and vision statements to guide us through the need to bolster our infrastructure and refine our programs. We restructured our Board of Directors; we invested in development and accounting systems; we shifted staff roles to maximize efficiency; and we identified the need to offer academic support to our youth.

During our 2011 fiscal year, we turned a corner – a few corners, actually! First, and most importantly, we were able to focus on our program delivery. Although the magic of FYI's effectiveness is grounded in developing leadership skills through community service, we also know that providing academic support services is critical if we are to improve the chances of our youth graduating from high school and pursuing a postsecondary education. In response, we created a Learning Center / Computer Lab thanks to a foundation grant; we formalized our pilot Welcome Program which assists immigrant youth in transitioning to US language, culture, and academics; and we began to explore the absorption of an established tutoring program to enhance our services and extend our reach. We also saw tremendous fiscal developments. By the end of our 2011 fiscal year, we closed a budget gap of over \$250,000; we were honored to receive our first endowment fund; we welcomed new funders into the FYI family; and we saw three separate funders award us grants greater than our requests. I'm sure you can imagine how heartening this is for us as we look ahead to our next fiscal year.

We see that our determination to succeed has rewarded us with a promising future in which we will continue to serve the youth and the community that we love.

Thank you for reading our report and for being a part of the FYI family. We could not support our youth without the support we receive from you.

Yours in service,

Esteban "Steve" Ramos, MSW
Executive Director

In 2010 and 2011 combined, FYI services impacted the lives of over **4,000** individuals in the Washington Heights/Inwood section of Manhattan.

Our Helping Hands Food Pantry (HHFP) distributed over **400,000** lbs. of food to help feed over **2,400** members of the community.

The Traveling Clothing Bank, PB&J Sandwich Distribution, and volunteering at soup kitchens fed and clothed over **700** seniors, adults and young people.

HHFP deliveries, book distributions, and Holiday Card Projects reached another **200** individuals.

200 individual adults and families were kept warm and comfortable with mittens, pillows or sleeping bags made by FYI'ers and volunteers.

An additional **500** individuals benefitted from other FYI programs, including Parents In Action, Summer Day Camp, and Summer Job Training.

More than **360** community locations have been positively impacted and beautified as a result of our young people's dedication.

Fresh Youth Initiatives Programs

Fall Programs / September - May

Summer Programs / June - August

- Afterschool = **100 youth served**
- + Community Service Learning = **80 youth served**
- + Welcome = **20 youth served**
- + Summer Day Camp = **35 youth served**
- + Summer Job Training = **35 youth served**

Total Youth Served Each Year = **270**

Total Lives Touched Each Year = **2,700**



Program Description

After School Program

Our signature program of community service projects continues to grow. In each of the past two years, FYI engaged more than 200 youth in over 200,000 hours of community service. The regular, ongoing service menu includes **beautification** projects (graffiti removal, park cleanups, mural painting and community gardening), **distribution** projects (soup and sandwiches, pillows and mittens, and traveling clothing bank), and the **Helping Hands Food Pantry**. Service projects are augmented by weekly enrichment activities including gender-specific discussion groups, trips, recreational and creative activities, educational support and family support.

Community Service Learning Program

This satellite program assists middle school students with fulfilling their community service requirement at school. FYI staff work with students at a local middle school, MS 324, twice weekly, engaging them in a variety of service projects. During the 2010 and 2011 school years, the Community Service Learning Program engaged 160 participants in over 6,000 hours of service.



*"Summer Day Camp
was sooooo
much FUN!!"*

The Helping Hands Food Pantry

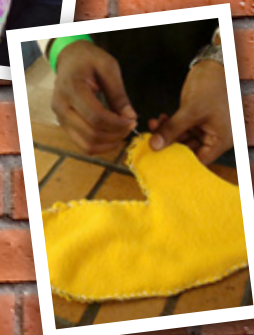
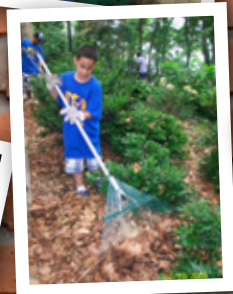
The Helping Hands Food Pantry is the only youth-run, adult-facilitated food relief program in NYC, housed in the Holy Trinity Church-Inwood. On average, the food pantry serves between 200 - 300 households a month. FYI staff and youth run all aspects of the pantry operations: unloading deliveries, maintaining the shelves, packing bags for pantry pick-up days, and supervising younger volunteers. Service groups deliver food to homebound seniors, and work at the pantry on distribution days. The HHFP is also a wonderful vehicle for collaboration with community partners. In 2010 and 2011, dozens of citywide food drives helped to stock the shelves, simultaneously engaging schools, religious and community institutions, and countless individuals in our hunger relief efforts.



*"Our favorite is
painting murals"*



*"I love doing
community service"*



Program Description

(continued)

The Welcome Program

Recognizing the need to help younger students who have recently arrived in the U.S., FYI piloted the Welcome Program in 2010. The program serves elementary school students in ELL (English Language Learner) programs at P.S. 128, helping them acclimate to US culture, become English-proficient, and develop their self-esteem in a warm and supportive non-school environment. We expect to formalize this program next year.

Summer Day Camp

FYI's Summer Camp serves youth ages ten to thirteen. The camp experience exposes our participants to hands-on community service activities, enrichment trips, arts & crafts, recreational activities, and reflection time. Favorite trips included: sailing lessons on the Hudson, ecology studies in Swindler Cove Park, several pool and beach trips, Tada! Theatre performances, dancing with the Hip Hop Cultural Center, and rowing lessons with Row New York.

Summer Job Training

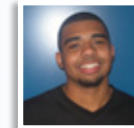
During the summer, FYI employs youth ages fourteen to nineteen through the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). This seven week program offers young people an opportunity to gain work experience and on-the-job training. In addition, SYEP workers attend educational workshops and develop their own workshops for presentation to their peers. Over these past two summers, we added a "mini" job fair component, bringing in speakers from the DA's office, the NYPD and Columbia University, among others. This program is funded through the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development.

Future Leaders



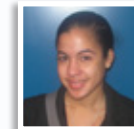
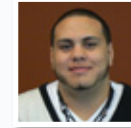
Fatima Guzman
BMCC
Over 1,500 hours

Jazmine Reyes
Job Corps
Over 1,500 hours



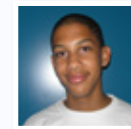
Ronald Diaz
Over 1,100 hours

Pedro Guadalupe
BMCC
Over 1,000 hours



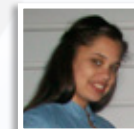
Madelyn Cabrera
John Jay College
Over 1,000 hours

Steven Jimenez
SUNY Sullivan
Over 1,000 hours



Sholenny Ferreira
Bronx Community College
Over 1,000 hours

Sholanly Ferreira
Lehman College
Over 950 hours



Mirka Quinones
SUNY Plattsburg
Over 450 hours

Congratulations!

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fiscal Year '11 Fiscal Year '10

Assets	Fiscal Year '11	Fiscal Year '10
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$61,705	\$152,207
Investments	\$182,521	\$8,821
Fixed Assets/Other	\$3,434,655	\$3,622,044
Total Assets	\$3,678,881	\$3,783,072

Liabilities	Fiscal Year '11	Fiscal Year '10
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$25,233	\$32,332
Total Liabilities	\$25,233	\$32,332

Net Assets	Fiscal Year '11	Fiscal Year '10
Unrestricted	\$3,465,526	\$3,650,740
Temporarily Restricted	\$36,372	\$0
Permanently Restricted	\$151,750	\$100
Total Net Assets	\$3,653,648	\$3,650,840

Statement of Activities/Income	Fiscal Year '11	Fiscal Year '10
Private Grant & Contributions	\$675,729	\$613,493
Other Revenue	\$8,074	\$12,228
Total Revenue & Support	\$683,803	\$625,721

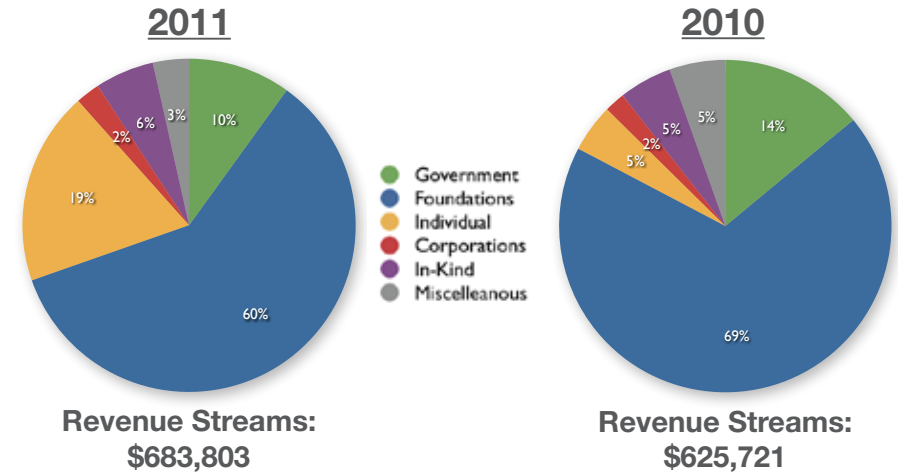
Expenses	Fiscal Year '11	Fiscal Year '10
Program Expenses	\$545,587	\$598,913
Management & General	\$76,119	\$132,661
Fundraising	\$56,131	\$69,217
Total Expenses	\$677,837	\$800,791

Operating Income (Deficit)	\$5,966	(\$175,070)
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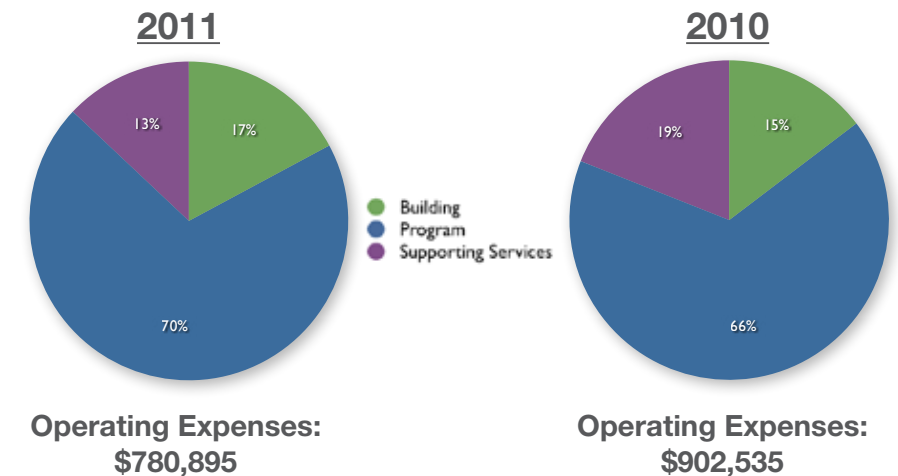
Depreciation	\$103,058	\$101,744
Net Deficit	(\$97,092)	(\$276,814)

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

REVENUE



EXPENSES



2011 FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS

Anonymous
 Anonymous
 Abram and Ray Kaplan Foundation
 Barham Family Foundation
 Bloomberg
 Barker Welfare Foundation
 Citi Community Affairs
 Colgate - Palmolive Foundation
 Clara & Kurt Hellmuth Foundation
 Daphne Foundation
 Elephant Rock Foundation
 The Elkes Foundation
 Fort Washington Collegiate Church
 The Gannett Foundation
 Hyde & Watson Foundation
 Holy Trinity Church - Inwood
 Jean L. and Robert A. Stern Foundation
 Pamela and Richard Rubinstein Foundation
 Rose M. Badgeley Residuary Charitable Trust
 Stephen & May Cavin Leeman Foundation

Old Oaks Foundation
 The Scherman Foundation
 Metzger-Price Fund
 NY Council of Nonprofits (NYCON)
 Pinkerton Foundation
 The Rau Foundation
 The Emergency Food Assistance Program
 Emergency Food & Shelter Nat'l Board Program
 Food Bank for New York City
 Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer
 NYC Dept. of Youth & Community Development
 NY City Council Member Robert Jackson
 NY City Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez
 NYS Child and Adult Care Feeding Program
 NYS HPNAP
 United Way of NYC

2010 FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS

Anonymous
 Anonymous
 The Allman Brothers Band / Live Nation
 Barham Family Foundation
 Bloomberg
 Charles A. Frueauff Foundation
 Clara & Kurt Hellmuth Foundation
 Con Edison
 Colgate - Palmolive Foundation
 Daphne Foundation
 Fort Washington Collegiate Church
 Glickenhau Foundation
 Helena Rubinstein Foundation
 Holy Trinity Church - Inwood
 Hyde & Watson Foundation
 Jean L. and Robert A. Stern Foundation
 JPMorgan Chase Foundation
 Louise and Arde Bulova Fund
 Medical Center Neighborhood Fund
 Metzger-Price Fund

Old Oaks Foundation
 Pamela and Richard Rubinstein Foundation
 Partnership for Afterschool Education (PASE)
 The Rau Foundation
 Rose M. Badgeley Residuary Charitable Trust
 Signature Bank
 Stephen & May Cavin Leeman Foundation
 William T. Grant Foundation
 The Emergency Food Assistance Program
 Emergency Food & Shelter Nat'l Board Program
 Food Bank for New York City
 Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer
 NYC Dept. of Youth & Community Development
 NY City Council Member Miguel Martinez
 NY City Council Member Robert Jackson
 NYS Child and Adult Care Feeding Program
 NYS HPNAP
 NY State Senator Eric Schneiderman
 United Way of NYC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2011

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 Steven Elkes
 Tal Golomb
 Gary Kreissman
 Heidi Lopez
 Harold Malone
 Rebecca Rosenthal-Sale
 Lewis Schiff

2010

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Special Thanks to All of Our Individual Supporters!

